

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217564

FOL RPT USUN 2961 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ANKARA ATHENS LONDON
NICOSIA 10 SEP 77 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2961

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, CY, TU

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON CYPRUS

1. SECURITY COUNCIL CONVENED BRIEFLY AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER
9 TO HEAR A RATHER ANGRY STATEMENT FROM CYPRIOT FONMIN
CHRISTOPHIDES WHO IS UPSET AT THE COUNCIL'S INABILITY TO
REACH A DECISION AFTER NEARLY TWO WEEKS OF DELIBERATION.
CHRISTOPHIDES COMPLAINED THAT THE COUNCIL HAD STILL NOT
HEARD STATEMENTS FROM A NUMBER OF STATES(READ US AND OTHR
WESTERNERS). BY INNUENDO, CHRISTOPHIDES POINTED THE FINGER
AT THE WEST FOR DRAGGING OUT NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE TEXT OF
A RESOLUTION. HE OUTLINED POINT BY POINT WHAT HE
CONSIDERED TO BE A CONSENSUS OR NEAR CONSENSUS WHICH HAS
EMERGED IN THE COUNCIL. CHRISTOPHIDES CLOSED BY SAYING THAT
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SOME MEMBERS, FOR THEIR OWN SPECIAL REASONS, WERE UNWILLING
TO SPELL OUT IN MODERATE LANGUAGE THE VIEWS WHICH THEY
ACTUALLY HOLD, AND THAT FOR A SMALL COUNTRY SUCH AS
CYPRUS THIS ATTITUDE WAS HARD TO UNDERSTAND.

2. TURK CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVE CHELIK MADE BRIEF
REPLY IN WHICH HE DREW CONCLUSION THAT LACK OF A

COUNCIL DECISION SIMPLY CONFIRMED TURKISH VIEW THAT THERE WAS NO CRISIS IN CYPRUS. HE HOPED THE COUNCIL WOULD BE ABLE TO AVOID ADOPTING A RESOLUTION AND SAID THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL IN GETTING NEGOTIATIONS GOING AGAIN.

3. INDIAN AMB EARLIER IN THE DAY PRODUCED NEW DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH APPEARS TO BE HIS PERSONAL ATTEMPT TO PRODUCE A GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE (TEXT SEPTEL). (SURFACING OF THIS NEW TEXT, IN OUR VIEW, HEADED OFF A MOVE TO VOTE ON THE BENIN DRAFT AT TODAY'S MEETING.) AMB LEONARD AND CANADIAN AMB BARTON MET WITH JAIPAL AFTER THE MEETING TO DISCUSS OUR INITIAL REACTION. WE SUGGESTED THAT THE WORDS "THAT MAY BE" BE STRUCK FROM THE SECOND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH SO THAT HIS THOUGHT COULD EXTEND BOTH FORWARD AND BACKWARD IN TIME. JAIPAL HAD NO COMMENT ON THIS SUGGESTION. LEONARD OUTLINED THE PRINCIPAL PROBLEM NAMELY THE EXPRESSION OF CONCERN IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ONE OVER THE "SITUATION CAUSED BY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEW FAMAGUSTA AREA". LEONARD SAID THE TURKS WOULD FIND THIS OFFENSIVE BECAUSE THEY DO NOT ACCEPT THAT THERE WERE ANY DEVELOPMENT IN FAMAGUSTA WHICH JUSTIFIED THE GREEKS CALLING THIS COUNCIL MEETING. FOR THE COUNCIL TO EXPRESS CONCERN WOULD BE TAKEN BY BOTH THE GREEKS AND THE TURKS AS A KIND OF CONDEMNATION, AND THEREFORE COULD HAVE UNFORTUNATE RESULTS. LEONARD WENT ON TO SAY THAT, FOR THE UNITED STATES, WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN FAMAGUSTA DID NOT JUSTIFY AN EXPRESSION OF

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CONCERN BY THE COUNCIL. THE REAL PROBLEM HAD BEEN THE RHETORIC ON BOTH SIDES, STARTING WITH ECEVIT, THEN PICKED UP BY THE TURK CYRIOTS, AND NOW BEING CARRIED ON BY THE GREEKS. OUR PRIMARY CONCERN WAS THE THREATS ISSUED BY BOTH SIDES THAT THEY WOULD WITHDRAW FROM THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IF THEY DID NOT GET THEIR WAY IN THE PRESENT COUNCIL DEBATE. LEONARD STRESSED HE WAS SPEAKING WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, BUT SAID THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT REWARD THE GREEKS WITH THIS IMPLICIT CONDEMNATION AND THIS ENCOURAGE THEM TO COME AGAIN TO THE COUNCIL WITH SIMILAR MINOR COMPLAINTS.

4. JAIPAL SAID HE HAD TRIED TO DEAL WITH THIS VERY POINT BY CAREFUL PHRASING, EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER "RECENT DEVELOPMENT", BUT OVER THE "SITUATION CAUSED BY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS". HE SAID HE FEARED THAT THE "OTHER SIDE WOULD NOT AGREE TO DELETION OF THIS POINT AND THAT, IF WE STICK ON IT, THEN WE MIGHT AS WELL RETURN TO THE BENIN TEXT AND HAVE A STRAIGHT VOTE. LEONARD COMPLIMENTED JAIPAL ON THE EXCELLENT WORK HE HAD DONE UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, AND OFFERED TO SUBMIT HIS DRAFT TO WASHINGTON AND TO ASK FOR A REACTION BY MONDAY.

5. CANADA, THE FRG, AND BRITAIN ALL SHARE OUR RESERVATIONS

ABOUT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ONE. THEY WILL ALL BE SEEKING INSTRUCTIONS, BUT AT THIS MOMENT ORITAIN SEEMS INCLINED TO ABSTAIN (PRESUMABLY IF THEY HAVE COMPANY) AND THE FRG AND CANADA ARE ON THE FENCE.

LEONARD

UNQUOTE VANCE

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